



State of California

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State Water Resources
Control Board

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Regional Water Quality
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Public Notice:
Proposed No Further Action Determination
Foster Farms - Tim Bell Ranch Facility
(Central Valley Water Board Case No.SL0609986367)
1852 Tim Bell Road
Waterford, California

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) invites public comment regarding the intent of the Board to grant regulatory closure for the unauthorized release of petroleum hydrocarbons at Foster Farms' Tim Bell Ranch Facility, located at 1852 Tim Bell Road in Waterford, California (Site). The Site operates as a poultry farm and previously utilized a diesel-powered heating system supplied by a single 10,000-gallon above-ground storage tank.

Following the discovery of an unauthorized release of diesel fuel at the facility in 2003, Foster Farms subsequently initiated excavation activities to remove petroleum-impacted soil from the Site in 2015. As a result of the excavation activities, Foster Farms removed approximately 7,550 tons of soil from the Site and disposed of it at Forward Landfill in Stockton, California.

Foster Farms did not encounter groundwater during the remedial excavation activities, which is reportedly present at approximately 90 feet below the ground surface. Additionally, at each of the three locations where Foster Farms excavated residual petroleum hydrocarbons, the 26 confirmation samples did not contain concentrations of diesel, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, or xylenes (collectively, BTEX) above their respective reporting limits.

Foster Farms continues to operate the Site as a poultry farm; however, heating for the facility is now supplied by a propane-based system.

Based on environmental assessment data collected from the Site, Foster Farms has removed residual petroleum hydrocarbon impacts to soil from the Site. Additionally, the unauthorized release of diesel fuel at the facility from 2003 does not appear to have impacted deeper groundwater beneath the Site.

Central Valley Water Board staff reviewed the 8 February 2017 *Report of Findings: Soil Excavation to Remove Petroleum Hydrocarbons*, originally submitted to the Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources by Condor Earth Technologies, Inc. on behalf of Foster Farms and, based on data collected from the Site to date, believe that petroleum hydrocarbons released from the former, diesel-powered heating system have been remediated to levels that no longer threaten human health or waters of the State.

Central Valley Water Board staff has established a public participation comment period that allows interested parties to comment on the proposed case closure. This Public Notice is being provided to you because your property, or place of residence or work, is located within **500 feet** of the affected area shown on the included map. After **25 October 2021**, Central Valley Water Board staff intends to complete its closure review process and close this former leaking UST case.

Public Comment Period: 20 August 2021 to 25 October 2021

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Additional information is available on the [State Water Resources Control Board's Geotracker website](http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/) (<http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>).

Please contact Jeremy Hughes with the Central Valley Water Board if you have any comments/questions regarding any of the information in this Public Notice or associated, proposed No Further Action determination at:

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Notice to the Hearing Impaired

TDD users can obtain additional information using the California State Relay Service (800) 735-2929 to reach the Public Participation Specialist. Ask them to contact the Central Valley Water Board at (916) 464-3291 regarding the proposed No Further Action determination for these Sites.

Figure 1
Site Location and Excavation Areas

